



JONATHAN E. FIELDING, M.D., M.P.H.
Director and Health Officer

JONATHAN E. FREEDMAN
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June 25, 2012

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Jonathan E. Fielding, M.D., M.P.H.
Director and Health Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Jonathan E. Fielding".

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO UTILIZE DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY TO REIMBURSE PARTICIPANTS IN THE 2012 EPIDEMIOLOGY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

This is to notify you that I am exercising authority approved by your Board on February 8, 2011, to reimburse, through Departmental Expenditure (DE), costs incurred by the Epidemiology Scholars Program (Epi Scholars Program) participants at approximately \$9,240 each, 100% offset by a grant from the de Beaumont Foundation, subject to review and approval by County Counsel, and notification to your Board and the Chief Executive Office.

Under the referenced authority, the Department of Public Health will reimburse up to ten epidemiology graduate students participating in the Epi Scholars Program, a 10 to 12 week training program for students recruited from top schools of public health to conduct research on health disparities and health care access in topics such as: diabetes, substance abuse, community disaster resilience, homeless health, immigrant health, intimate partner violence, and tobacco usage. Research information is shared with the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the Seattle - King County Department of Public Health, the other host sites funded by the de Beaumont Foundation.

The use of DE to reimburse these costs was recommended by the Auditor Controller as the student participants are not able to meet the standard requirements of a County service contract and the Internal Services Department has determined that these services do not meet the definition of commodity or service as required for a purchase order.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved this action.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please let me know.

JEF:cm
#2340

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors